

# House Study Bill 563 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON KOESTER)

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act related to civil service employees by removing state  
2 residency requirements and modifying a city's authority to  
3 set distance or travel-based residency requirements.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 400.17, subsection 3, Code 2016, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. Employees shall not be required to be a resident of  
4 the city in which they are employed, ~~but they shall become~~  
5 ~~a resident of the state within two years of such appointment~~  
6 ~~or the date employment begins and shall remain a resident~~  
7 ~~of the state during the remainder of employment.~~ However,  
8 ~~cities~~ Cities may set a reasonable maximum distance outside  
9 of the corporate limits of the city, or a reasonable maximum  
10 travel time, that police officers, fire fighters, and other  
11 critical ~~municipal~~ city employees may live from their place  
12 of employment. ~~Each~~ An employee ~~residing outside the state~~  
13 subject to a residency requirement based on distance or travel  
14 time who does not meet that residency requirement on the date  
15 of appointment or on the date employment begins shall take  
16 reasonable steps to ~~become a resident of the state~~ meet the  
17 requirement as soon as practicable following appointment or  
18 beginning of employment, and a city may provide the employee  
19 up to two years from the date of appointment or the date  
20 employment begins to meet the residency requirement.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 This bill relates to residency requirements for civil  
25 service employees.

26 Under current law, city employees in Iowa are not required  
27 to be a resident of the city in which they are employed, but  
28 are required to become Iowa residents within two years of  
29 appointment or employment and remain Iowa residents throughout  
30 their term of employment. City employees residing outside the  
31 state when initially employed are required to take reasonable  
32 steps to become an Iowa resident as soon as practicable.  
33 Current law also provides that cities may set a reasonable  
34 maximum distance outside of the corporate limits of the city,  
35 or a reasonable maximum travel time, that police officers, fire

1 fighters, and other critical municipal employees may live from  
2 their place of employment.

3     The bill removes the requirement that civil service  
4 employees obtain Iowa residency within two years of employment  
5 and maintain Iowa residency throughout the term of employment.  
6 The bill maintains current law allowing cities to set residency  
7 requirements based on distance or travel time for police,  
8 fire, and other critical employees, but provides that such  
9 critical employees living outside the distance or travel time  
10 limitations at the time of appointment or hiring must take  
11 steps to meet the requirement as soon as practicable. The  
12 bill also allows cities to provide such critical employees  
13 with up to two years from the date of appointment or the date  
14 employment begins to meet the residency requirement.